

STATE OF ILLINOIS

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Southwest Central 9-1-1 System, :
Illinois :
 : 92-0069
Petition for approval of a 9-1-1 :
Emergency Telephone Number :
System. :

ORDER

By the Commission:

On March 2, 1992, the Southwest Central 9-1-1 System, Illinois ("Petitioner") filed a verified Petition with the Illinois Commerce Commission ("Commission") seeking authorization to operate an enhanced "9-1-1" emergency reporting system, served by Illinois Bell Telephone Company ("IBT").

In its Petition Petitioner requested a waiver of the hearing process in this matter and has submitted the requisite verified statements in support of its request. Notice of the filing was published in the Southtown Economist Newspaper on September 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 29 and 30 and October 1, 2 and 3, 1991. The record shows that no objections were made to the Petition. The Commission, having reviewed the Petition and accompanying materials, grants Petitioner's request to waive a hearing on the proposed modified plan.

Recognizing that it was in the public interest to shorten the time required for a person to request and receive emergency aid, the Illinois Legislature enacted certain legislation entitled the Emergency Telephone System Act (the "Act"). The purpose of the Act is "to establish the number '9-1-1' as the primary emergency telephone number for use in this State and to encourage units of local government and combinations of such units to develop and improve emergency communication procedures and facilities in such a manner as to be able to quickly respond to any person calling the telephone number '9-1-1' seeking police, fire, medical, rescue, and other emergency services."

The Commission, with the advice and assistance of the Illinois Attorney General, is authorized to coordinate the implementation of systems established under the Act. In order to secure compliance with the technical and operational standards for the development of local agency systems, the Act empowers the Commission to approve or disapprove plans submitted by the public agencies.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Act, Petitioner submitted its plan for the implementation of an enhanced "9-1-1" emergency

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reporting system applicable to seven exchanges of IST, listed in Exhibit 5 of the Petition. Appropriate participant agreements have been executed between Petitioner and the participating agencies.

The total land area for the proposed system is approximately 70.1 square miles and has an estimated population of 132,661. The proposed "9-1-1" emergency reporting system will serve all or part of the following agencies' territories:

Blue Island Fire and Police Departments, Chicago Ridge Fire and Police Departments, Dixmoor Fire and Police Departments, Lemont Police Department, Palos Heights Police Department, Palos Hills Police Department, Palos Park Police Department, Posen Fire and Police Departments, Worth Fire and Police Departments, Willowbrook Police Department, Lemont Fire Protection District, Palos Fire Protection District, Palos Heights Fire Protection District, North Palos Fire Protection District, Illinois State Police Districts 2, 4, and 15, Cook County Sheriff, Will County Sheriff, DuPage County Sheriff, Moraine Valley Community College, Cook County Forest Preserve and Metropolitan Sanitary District.

Petitioner proposes to maintain a PSAP at 7611 West College Drive, Palos Heights, Illinois. The system to be installed is an enhanced "9-1-1" system. Calls will be dispatched to the various public safety agencies identified in the preceding paragraph. In the event a call is received for any agency outside the jurisdictional boundaries of the participating agencies, the system will have the ability to transfer the call to the proper agency via radio communication or a telephone call to the respective agency.

The system will also employ Automatic Number Identification, Automatic Location Identification and Selective Routing and Forced Disconnect. These features will allow dispatch personnel to immediately identify the caller's telephone number and address in the event that the caller is unable to communicate information to dispatch telephone personnel.

The system is funded by a surcharge which was approved by the voters of the Communities to be served by Petitioner.

The Commission, having considered the entire record herein and being fully advised in the premises, is of the opinion and finds that:

- (1) Petitioner, Southwest Central 9-1-1 System, Illinois, is a public agency within the meaning of Section 2.01 of the Emergency Telephone System Act;

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- (2) the Commission, pursuant to the provisions of the Act, has jurisdiction over Petitioner and of the subject matter hereof;
- (3) the facts set forth in the prefatory portion of this Order are supported by the record and are hereby adopted as findings of fact;
- (4) the plan submitted by Petitioner for the implementation of a "9-1-1" emergency reporting system applicable to the service area previously identified is an enhanced system as specified by the Act; authorization should be granted for said plan to be put into service effective March 25, 1992 or as soon thereafter as practicable;
- (5) joint powers agreements, together with any amendments thereto, among public agencies within the "9-1-1" emergency reporting system, and among public agencies and public safety agencies which are part of different systems but whose jurisdictional boundaries are contiguous, should be entered into and copies thereof filed with this Commission and the Illinois Attorney General; certified notification of the continuation of such agreements should be made among the involved parties annually, and copies of the annual certified notification of continuing agreements should be filed with this Commission and the Illinois Attorney General prior to the 31st day of January of each succeeding year;
- (6) the authorization herein granted, should be subject to Petitioner complying promptly, with all rules and regulations relating to "9-1-1" emergency service promulgated or to be promulgated by the Commission;
- (7) rates for the "9-1-1" emergency service herein authorized should be the appropriate telephone public utility's applicable rates now in effect or such other rates as may be hereafter approved by the Commission.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the plan submitted by the Petitioner, Southwest Central 9-1-1 System, Illinois, for the implementation of a "9-1-1" emergency reporting system, applicable to the certain exchanges of Illinois Bell Telephone Company as identified in Exhibit 5 to the Petition, be, and it is hereby, authorized effective March 25, 1992 or as soon thereafter as practicable.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the rates for said authorized service shall be the appropriate telecommunications carrier's

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applicable rates now in effect, or such other rates as may hereafter be approved by the Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the authorization herein granted is subject to Petitioner complying promptly with all rules and regulations relating to "9-1-1" emergency service promulgated or to be promulgated by the Commission.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that joint powers agreements together with any amendments thereto, described in Finding (5) hereof, shall be entered into and copies thereof filed with this Commission and the Illinois Attorney General, certified notification of the continuation of such agreements shall be made annually among the involved parties, and copies of the annual certified notification of continuing agreements shall be filed with this Commission and the Illinois Attorney General prior to the 31st day of January of each succeeding year.

By Order of the Commission this 12th day of March, 1992.

(SIGNED) ELLEN C. CRAIG

Chairman

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